



JQUES ATTACKS FARM GROUP

British Delegates



ALICE BACON, M.P., who has been active in leadership of the British National Union of Teachers, is attending the Commonwealth Labor Parties Conference in Toronto, this month.



MORGAN PHILLIPS, Secretary of the British Labor Party, heads the British delegation at the Commonwealth Labor Parties Conference, which also includes Sam Watson who visited Canada last year.



PERSONAL STUFF

BY
E. E. R.

I am going to ask you to do something and it is going to cost you a dollar. So maybe you'll stop reading right now. But if you're still with me, here's the proposal. You have a neighbor who is a good fellow and whom you think might be just as enthusiastic in his support of the C.C.F. as you are—if his contact with the movement were as close as yours is. All right, let's give him the chance. It will cost you a dollar, but you can be sure that it will be a dollar effectively spent. Now, of course, it will be a very easy thing for you to slip a dollar in a letter and say, "please send Bill Smith the People's Weekly for six months." But that wouldn't be good enough. Many people are suspicious of newspapers and other periodicals which come to them unordered. In many cases they have reason to be. So it isn't good enough to send Bill the paper anonymously. What I am asking you to do is to go to him and say, "Bill, I know you are interested in public affairs and I want you to know about the C.C.F. So I have taken the liberty of subscribing to the People's Weekly for you for six months." (Continued on page 8)

Moratorium On Farm Debt, Saskatchewan

Power Will Be Used to Protect Farmers Suffering Crop Failure

PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST

REGINA. — Power of moratorium possessed by the provincial government will be used to protect farmers suffering crop failure from pressure by creditors, whether under a mortgage or an agreement for sale, Attorney-General J. W. Corman declared recently.

"The Supreme Court decision which held the crop failure clause to be beyond the power of the provincial government prevents enforcement of the protection given by the clause, pending an appeal to the Privy Council," he pointed out.

"But in view of adverse crop conditions in many parts of the province, the provincial government is determined to give this protection," declared Mr. Corman.

Has the Power
"The province possesses the power of moratorium to prevent the collection out of this year's crop of both principal and interest, and is prepared to use such power in cases of crop failure as defined in the Farm Security Act."

Application by farmers wishing protection should be made to the Provincial Mediation Board, Government Insurance Building, Regina, the attorney-general said. To facilitate such applications, forms have been supplied to the secretary-treasurers of all rural municipalities.

Mr. Corman advised farmers who have suffered a crop failure, which is a crop of less than 56 per cent in value, and who wish protection, to see their secretary-treasurers or write the Mediation Board, at Regina.

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M. J. Coldwell to Address Conventions In Alberta

M. J. Coldwell, M.P., National Leader of the C.C.F., will address about ten meetings in Alberta at the end of October and the first part of November, in connection with provincial nominating conventions to be held in that period. Mr. Coldwell will arrive in the province on October 20th, proceeding immediately to the northern part of the province and to Dawson Creek, B.C. Three northern conventions will be addressed by the national leader, Grande Prairie, Spirit River and Peace River. He will then go to Prince George and Prince Rupert, coming back to Alberta for five days beginning November 4th.

British Farmers Turn Salesmen



When wholesalers refused to buy produce because they claimed prices were too high, these Croydon farmers, with the blessing of the British Food Ministry, decided to sell the food direct to the public. In more and more cities, farmers are hauling in their produce and selling it direct to the consumer. Housewives are getting the produce at figures well below the local scale and the farmers are getting a good return.

Citizens Behind Strikers At the Medalta Potteries

Large Mass Meeting Backs Demand For Higher Wages and Better Conditions

ALDERMEN SPEAK

MEDICINE HAT—The strike by workers at Medalta Potteries, involving 250 members of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, C.I.O., Local 881, reached the end of its third week with picket lines firm and company production still at zero.

The workers faced with injunctions, court charges, and wholesale firings, are ignoring this barrage of intimidation and are remaining solid on the picket line, according to a press release from the union.

W. Longridge, International Representative for the Union, and Paul Pasternack, striker, charged with common assault, were fined.

Two workers are facing contempt of court charges for picketing. (Continued on Page 8)

They'll Have To Pay For It Now!

REGINA—Entry of the Saskatchewan government into the mining and marketing of clay resources of the province through the Clay Products Division of Saskatchewan Minerals, a crown corporation, was announced recently by Natural Resources Minister J. L. Phelps.

He pointed out that ceramic interests in neighboring provinces had been depleting Saskatchewan clay resources at the rate of about 30,000 tons annually for 20 years without compensation for the loss.

Referring to a recent press story which said industrial users of clay in Alberta "would go elsewhere" if a price was set on Saskatchewan clay, Mr. Phelps said those users "are already securing clay from the United States, but they are not getting it for nothing as in this province. They pay American clay producers from \$6 to \$19 per ton which, with freight charges, brings the total cost to from \$30 to \$35 per ton f.a.b. Medicine Hat."

60% Of Beds Must Be Public Ward In Saskatchewan

REGINA—Sixty per cent of the beds in every hospital and approved nursing home in Saskatchewan is required to be "maintained and made available as public ward accommodation by an order-in-council effective August 1," Premier T. C. Douglas announced recently.

This provision has been designed for the benefit of the public, and will ensure that the majority of hospital beds be available at public-ward rates.

Ansley Also Takes Stand Against AFU

Low, Jaques and Ansley Expound "Party Line" at Calmar Meeting

SMALL CROWD

"The Alberta Farmer's Union is dominated and controlled by Communists," said Norman Jaques, M.P. for Westlock, during the question period of a public meeting, at Calmar, Wednesday evening, August 27th. The meeting was held following a Social Credit convention for Le-due constituency and was attended by 60 or 70 people.

Under direct questioning by Henry Young, Vice-president of the Alberta Farmer's Union, Mr. Jaques identified the A.F.U. as one of the farm organizations to which he had referred in his speech, as dangerous to the general welfare of the country because of its Communist control.

His statement came as more or less of a shock to those present, most of whom are, or have been, members of the A.F.U. organization. Following Mr. Jaques' account. (Continued on Page 8)

CRITICS WANT TO KNOW WHERE CCF GETS RADIO FUND

Some C.C.F. critics have been asking where the C.C.F. gets the money to sponsor its weekly radio broadcasts on four Alberta stations. As People's Weekly readers know it comes from one source only; those loyal supporters who send in the contributions which are listed in the paper every week. Some weeks there is sufficient over to make up a previous week's deficit. (This is not one of those weeks.) But with holidays over the fund should go over the top next week.

The following contributions are gratefully acknowledged:

A friend, 2.00; T. Weekes, 1.00; E. Mutzenek, 50c; Geo. Lamb, 1.00; H. Anderson, 2.00; Mr. and Mrs. J. Heap, 3.00; M. S. Wearnehead, 2.00; R. G. Dentman, 10.00; J. J. Gogan, 2.00; Bert Giles, 1.00; A. Davies, 5.00; Ben Reiswig, 1.00; J. Tinner, 2.00; R. Schmidt, 2.00; J. Collins, 2.00.

HERE'S AN OFFER - AND A CHALLENGE!

Mr. Mark M. Albert, of Edson, is prepared to take a chance on a good thing. So he sent us a blank cheque, to be filled out with the cost of a radio broadcast PROVIDED some other person or group comes through with the same offer.

So there it is, a perfectly good cheque for \$18.00 (the cost of a five-minute broadcast on CJCA) waiting for us to cashed until someone meets Mr. Albert's challenge.

We have an idea the cheque will soon be cashed! Who'll be first to "call" the Edson supporter?

So Big Business Has Committed Suicide

By Michael Foot, M.P.

HUGH DALTON'S brave word-spoken over the radio this week signalled something more than the end of the American Loan. They marked the end of an epoch.

It is necessary for us to see clearly what that epoch was; what precisely were the illusions which led so many persons and nations to misconceive the realities of the world crisis; why it was that the great States set out after the armistice, on the wrong course and why they must now learn to tread a different road.

It is all the more necessary because already so many of the mentors of the British people are busy drawing the wrong conclusions and advocating the wrong remedies.



Tory Myth

Turn to one section of the British Press, for instance, and you might almost imagine that the crisis we are faced with is the crisis of Socialism. All the trouble is due, it likes to pretend, to the failure of our semi-nationalized-plus-private enterprise society to produce enough goods.

That is the myth spread by our Tory patriots in this country and so widely accepted on the other side of the Atlantic.

Nothing could be farther from the truth. Despite huge handicaps, an enormous effort at production has been made and achieved in this country since the end of the war.

Higher Output

Even the "Economist" the newspaper which fiercely attacks the Government for not adopting in 1947 the solutions which failed to solve our problems in 1931, admits that "there is very little room for doubt that the aggregate output of the British community today is from 10 to 20 per cent higher in volume than it was in 1938."

That claim is borne out by many other figures, by the unemployment level, the export targets achieved, the new factories and houses built and building steel production, shipbuilding and other indications.

The achievement is no small

one in view of our plight two years ago, and those who have spread the opposite tale of a lazy Britain which has achieved nothing since the war have not only popularized a lie; they have done and are doing a gross disservice to our country.

Of course, we still need to produce much more coal, more food, and more of many other commodities if we are to survive. But even if we had succeeded in producing 10, 20, or 30 per cent more, we should not have avoided this crisis. It was inexorable, given the policy of the dominant economic forces on this globe.

The Slashers

Look at another section of the British Press, and it seems to tell us that the crisis is chiefly due to inflation in this country. Deflation, said that old soothsayer the "Economist," was "the sovereign remedy." Cut the social services, smash the housing campaign, abolish the food subsidies, create unemployment and then sit back and twiddle your thumbs while the unemployed workers find their way to the essential industries.

Of course, measures are needed continuously to control inflation, including perhaps some form of capital levy. But if all the measures proposed by the deflationists had been adopted they would not have forestalled the present crisis.

All they would have achieved would have been to provoke industrial disturbance and more extensive wage claims, while leaving the mass of the people worse fed, worse housed and less able to make the productive exertion which the nation requires.

The crisis is not, then, a crisis of Socialism or a crisis of inflation. The crisis is a world crisis and it marks the collapse of all the mad anachronistic economic doctrines, which the rulers of the United States have sought to force down the throats of mankind since the guns ceased to fire.

The end of the war left the United States in a position of towering economic dominance. Large stretches of Asia and Europe had been devastated. Many countries in particular Britain, had been compelled to distort

their economies in order to help win the war.

What was needed to fight famine and to enable the world to recover was a system of planned trade, planned world food distribution and orderly assistance from the New World to the Old.

U.S. Folly

Instead, what was organized was an unexampled profits boom in the United States and a fantastic effort to re-impose on this stricken and suffering planet a system of Victorian capitalism under American hegemony.

This was the folly perpetrated on the other side of the Atlantic, and while India and Europe trembled on the verge of starvation, and while Britain struggled to recover, our prize buffoons nearer home called upon us to "watch America."

Boom-erang

That "plan" of world recovery was symbolized in the American Loan Agreement. It is that "plan," with its dream of free convertibility and kindred absurdities, which has now collapsed.

Britain and the Western World feel the impact first, but very soon some gentlemen in the United States who are now busy debating how Britain should run her affairs will have some worries of their own to debate. They will be hit by the boomerang which they launched two years ago when the same pretension of Lease-Lend was so blithely abandoned.

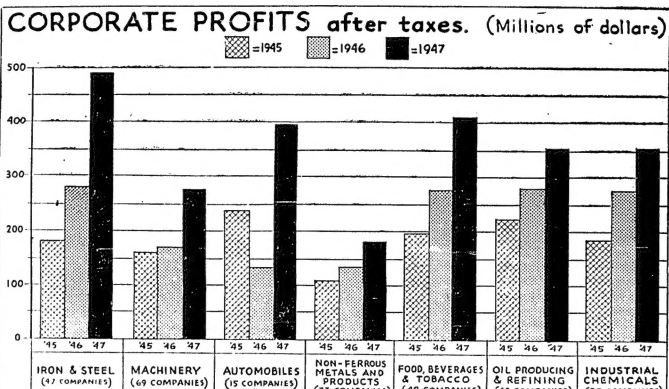
Yes, an epoch has ended, the epoch in which American capitalism strove to rivet its ideas on a devastated world which had hardly the strength to protest.

Now the new epoch begins.

Tough decisions will have to be taken by our Government and people at home and abroad; decisions to cut our commitments according to our cloth; decisions to concentrate our energies more than ever on essentials; decisions to help build a truly planned area of trade; decisions all of which will require more interference with the wild vagaries of private enterprise.

The logic of events, be it noted, means NOT that we should scrap Socialism, nor that we should return to the dreary facilities of 1931. Henceforward, the cause of Socialism and the cause of British independence and the cause of world sanity are indissolubly bound together.

In that spirit we can awaken the nation to the greatest exertion in its history.



Although big business in the United States has reaped the largest profits in American history it not only continues to squeeze its own people by inflicting ever higher prices on them but in its frenzied urge for more profits is delaying recovery in Britain and other parts of the world.

Premier Douglas As College Lecturer

REGINA.—On holiday in California Premier T. C. Douglas has accepted the invitation of the University of Southern California to give two weeks' series of lectures on "Christian Social Ethics." The lecture course will be attended by social workers, ministers doing refresher studies and other students taking social welfare courses.

Few Australians Are In Need Of Jobless Benefits

Of every 10,000 wage earners in Australia only 69 are receiving either unemployment or sickness benefits from the Commonwealth Government. Figures released by Commonwealth Statistician Dr. Roland Wilson recently show that in May, 1947, 7,500 persons were receiving benefits for unemployment and 9,300 for sickness. More than 400 were in receipt of special allowances. Main causes of unemployment over the 11 months to May 31 were industrial disputes and power rationing.

Urges Commonwealth Plan For Food And Immigration

AUSTRALIAN MINISTER IN OTTAWA

OTTAWA (CPA).—A Commonwealth conference of prime ministers and government experts on immigration and food production, to assess the entire potential of manpower and material wealth in Britain and the Dominions and to plan its better distribution, was advocated in Ottawa last week by Arthur A. Calwell, Australian Minister for Immigration and Information, who is on his way home after talks in London and Scandinavia where he made known his objective of 70,000 immigrants a year to Australia.

Free to Leave Britain

Mr. Calwell thinks that 35 millions, instead of the present 47 millions, is the maximum population which the island of Britain can maintain. He foresees a shift of British population to the food-

producing, under-populated Dominions, especially to Canada and Australia.

He told Ottawa newsmen that he had put the proposition frankly up to British officials, and had been told that the government would not stand in the way of the individual's free choice to move where he likes, though British spokesmen hoped that Australia would not be too selective, but would take a "fair cross section" of those applying for immigration—the middle-aged and the young, the skilled and the unskilled.

Describing his country as "an island of European culture which geographically belongs to Asia," Mr. Calwell expressed some apprehension about maintaining the high Australian standard of living under these conditions.

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Many people ask today: Where is this constant rise in prices of life's necessities going to wind up? They ask this question in fear and utter bewilderment as they hear announcements of price increases follow one another like the seasons of the year. Today it is butter, tomorrow it is eggs, or tea or shoes. And all the while the family income remains stationary. The blame of this mounting cost of living is always placed on the occasional wage increases that some organized group of workers succeeds in wrangling by negotiation or by costly strike action. The great majority of unorganized employees do not share this increase. No adjustment of consequence is made for those who live on "fixed" incomes from pensions or insurance schemes. As individuals they are helpless. All they can do is to tighten their belts and watch helplessly the rising cost of living. No wonder they ask fearfully: Where is this going to end?

The answer is, of course, that this "squeeze" will bring on a capitalist crisis and eventually abolition of the private profit economy. This "squeeze" process is an essential and unavoidable feature of the private profit economy. It goes with capitalism like "kickness" goes with prostitution. This constant rise of prices is a method of exploitation of those who produce the wealth of the world by those who own the tools of production and distribution.

Private profit "free enterprise" is a social system in which those who own and control the means of life strive to exploit those who have to work for a living. The principal objective is to shell out as little as possible of the world's production to those who create it and to accumulate as much as possible in the hands of those few who own this wealth. In times of depression when millions of people are milling around the gates looking for work the "squeeze" can be applied directly by simple process of reducing wages. No need to resort to price manipulation. Right now when there is a backlog in production and reconstruction to be carried out, when employment is relatively abundant it is more convenient to exploit the people through price manipulation. The effect is the same: increased profits. Anyone interested can check that by looking up the profit balances of major industrial monopolies.

Here is an instance of how it works:

A few weeks ago U.S.A. miners were granted a wage increase of \$3.45 per day. To meet this increase in miners' pay the price of coal would have to be advanced 38 cents per ton and steel \$1.08 per ton. Actually coal is going up already 75 cents to \$1.00 per ton and steel is being upped \$5.00 per ton. The miners get the blame and the operators get the profit. That's how capitalism works. Its objective is profit and more profit.

Eventually this process brings on "crisis." People's savings are wiped out, their buying power reduced, roads pile up, factories are closed and unemployment sets in. Economists call it a slump, depression, recession or dollar crisis. It's just a capitalist crisis more acute than before and on a wider scale.

In the meantime there is widespread suffering and rising discontent and confusion. More people are forced to organize for

The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 250 words in length.

REPLIES TO "PARENT"

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: The "parent," writing in your issue of August 9th regarding the school situation in Alberta, and the work of the Alberta Educational Council has not yet grasped fully the purpose and very definite aim of the Council. Nor does he realize the very great weight of responsibility resting on his own shoulders.

The Alberta Educational Council is a voluntary organization. Its work is done by representatives of a large number of interested groups and it is financed on a voluntary basis by these interested groups. It has no legislative authority whatsoever, but its members are deeply concerned to see that the children of Alberta are given opportunity in education. It did what it could. It put over a wide and thorough publicity campaign to inform the people of the province as to the wide spread need for improvement and as to what should be done.

Legislative authority and executive power in Alberta rests, as in any democracy, in the hands of the citizens of Alberta who must in each election entrust that authority and that power to their chosen representatives. More than that, they owe it to these representatives to keep them informed as to changing needs. So if things have gone wrong in Alberta the final responsibility rests with the people of Alberta. "Parent" and other citizens must make it more abundantly clear to each representative in the legislature that they want our schools properly financed.

The Alberta Educational Council will, we hope, continue its work of publicity — of informing the citizens of educational needs. Citizens through their representatives must do the rest.—Yours truly,

JENNIE ELLIOTT,
Member, Alberta Educational Council.
235 Scarboro Avenue,
Calgary, Alta.

SOME PROPOSALS FOR SPECIAL AREAS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: In the People's Weekly of August 23, Mrs. Warren asks this question: "What more advantages can the C.C.F. offer the inhabitants of the Special Areas than they already enjoy?" There are plenty I can think of, but these four offer a starting point:

1. A plan whereby Government-owned (Provincial or Special Areas) dirt-moving equipment would excavate dumps and construct dams for the farmers at cost. The P.F.R.A. grant for such construction would cover the major portion of cost. The large irrigation scheme, if and when completed, will only benefit a small percentage of farmers. The above plan would permit small-scale irrigation and stock water both summer and winter.
2. Immediate Government ownership.

self-preservation. More people than ever realize the inefficiency of the private profit economy as far as distribution of goods is concerned. There may be mere intervals of tragic confusion like the "hungry thirties" with fascism and destructive wars. But, the army of rebels against capitalism grows. They are denounced as a "menace to society" or as communists or traitors. Pretty soon, almost everybody will be labelled "communist" or a "red." The final outcome is inevitable: the abolition of the profit system and its replacement with planned economy and production for use.

Judging by world trends the final issue is closer than we think. Brothers—speed the day.

ership of Hydro so that the towns and villages and the farmers close in can have the advantages of cheap electricity.

3. Return of autonomy in local self-government to the people, where it rightfully belongs.

4. Settlement of 1937-38 seed and feed grain and fodder advances on the same basis as Saskatchewan has settled similar advances there.

In regards to the long term cheap lease (grazing), these have advanced 60% in rental in the past few years.

R. M. THORNTON.
Sedalia, Alta.

CRITICIZES MARSHALL

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: In a recent issue of the P.W. I noticed the distribute of one John Milner. He is endorsed by Hardy Wear who would vote a Socialist government in and vote them out again if necessary. An "in and out" so to speak, twiddle-de dum, then twiddle-dee dee. The capitalist-class retain their power because of these people.

If Mr. Wear voted Socialism out what would be his substitute? Mr. Milner in a recent letter to the Western Producer says he believes in a "Reformed Capitalism."

So does Mr. Bracken, Solon Lo, King, etc., and 90% of the Canadian Press, the mouthpiece of Canadian and American Finance-Capital.

Space does not permit me to reply in detail to Mr. Lorne Ingle, July 1947, re the Soviet Union, Veto, etc., Marshall Plan, etc., etc.

Mr. Ingle gives us a rehash of 1938-39, etc. I would say that some of the Social Democrats which he supported during that period are now doing jail sentences for collaboration with our common enemy, i.e. Vaino Tanner the late president of the International Co-ops.

The representative of the British Empire, Neville Chamberlain and Daladier of Democratic France, signed the Munich Pact with Hitler, sold the Czechs "down the river", paved the way for Lidice, etc., and gave the green light to Hitler's attack upon Russia. If we vote in Imperialist Tory governments we must be responsible for their actions.

Re the veto: The U.S.S.R. without the veto would be relegated to the status of Egypt which is just exactly what the tycoons of Wall Street desire. Then the U.N. would become the U.S.A. and the latter's dollar diplomacy would control the world.

It is interesting to note that the Hon. Lionel Chevrier, Minister of Transport, states in the Winnipeg Free Press that American Capital now controls 22% of Canadian industry. We also find American capital controls the rubber interests of Indonesia, where Dutch armor supplied by American lend-lease is now trying out "The Atlantic Charter" and upon the 60 million natives of that rich country which no doubt threatens the existence of "Little Holland."

It is strange how so-called intelligent people place their faith in the Marshall Plan. Marshall the Prophet of 1941 who stated that the Soviet would not last 10 weeks against the Wehrmacht. The Marshall Plan, is the plan of American capital to dominate the world, by substituting the dollar symbol for the Swastika. Hitler's wildest dreams fell far short of the atom bomb experts who now state that they can wipe out 75 million Russians in 24 hours.

The Marshall Plan is not to socialize Europe. Quite the contrary, and is somewhat similar to the demands of Hitler upon the U.S.S.R. in 1941. The U.S.A. has now extended the Monroe doc-



H. ZELLA SPENCER

In a previous article I quoted from an Eastern paper. This week I want to quote again from a Canadian weekly—Toronto Saturday night. And no one contradicts me I think when I say it is not a C.C.F. paper. But one of their editorials interested me and I thought might interest those of you who do not see the paper.

It was in turn commenting with some surprise on the Winnipeg Free Press which seemed perturbed over the realization by the government and the people of the United States that that country was using up its resources at a much faster rate than appeared possible a few years ago. Then the Saturday Night in its editorial went on to say:

"The habit of using up the natural resources of any area at too rapid a rate is one of the inevitable consequences of that complete freedom of exploitation, at the uncontrolled will of the private owners of these resources, to which The Free Press is so deeply attached. The only effective means of checking that over-consumption of resources before it has gone to disastrous lengths is precisely that control and regulation by the political authority to which the Free Press is most bitterly opposed. If the United States is going to protect itself against the total disappearance of its resources of oil, copper, lead, zinc and forest products it cannot possibly wait until the consumption of these things is

checked by the competition of similar articles brought in from elsewhere. It will have to adopt a considerable measure of planned economy—the regulation of the rate at which these materials can be drawn upon by private owners, regulations of the uses to which the products can be put, and perhaps even regulation to the extent to which the products can be exported to satisfy the needs of other peoples."

And yet there are those who throw up their hands in holy horror at the very sound of the word "planning", and shout that we must have no interference with the right of the individual. In fact most of the political parties try to terrorize all who will listen, to any suggestion for planning the nation's economy. They paint lurid pictures of what it will mean.

Probably there are some who are sincere in their belief. There are also others who realize that it is something they can play upon to their own advantage and they do so to the limit. But on every hand it is continually being seen more clearly that the world cannot run along with the same haphazard method it has used in the past. Perhaps they may be able to save face and do it under some other name, other than planning, but it is something every political party will realize it must adopt as one of the essentials of our modern civilization. It is not a party cry; it is sound common sense. It is not merely preferable, it is imperative.

JUST A MINUTE!

By A. J. E. LIESEMER, M.L.A.

It is simply absurd for the working man, the small merchant and the farmer to vote for any one of the old line parties—Social Credit, Liberal, or Tory. For all are the political servants of the very monopoly capitalism that is robbing the worker and farmer of his standard of living. Each of the three old-line parties vie with the others in currying the favor of the big business interests which can supply them with copious election funds.

"No politics in the Union!" is an idea invented by big business and sold to workers and farmers for their own destruction. Workers' and farmers' organizations are the industrial arm of the people's movement; the C.C.F. is the people's political arm. Each needs the other.

It is sheer absurdity to fight monopoly with the industrial arm and at the same time to help it with the political arm. When workers and farmers decide to fight monopoly with both arms we'll have a people's government to enact legislation that will enable the people to enjoy the fruits of their own labor.

And not until then.

C.C.F. RADIO TALKS

Grande Prairie, C.F.P., 7:15 p.m. Wednesday.
Edmonton, C.J.C.A., 10:15 p.m. Saturday.
Calgary, C.F.A.C., 5:40 p.m. Saturday.
Lethbridge, C.J.O.E., 6:00 p.m. Saturday.
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trine to the gateway of the Black Sea and by her actions is now sowing a new crop of dragon's teeth, with Canada playing the part of the Sudeten Germans. Such is the plan now being drawn up by North American capital. Morningside. E. H. Tudor.

PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

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The Big Grab Has Been Made

OIL was one of the major issues in the 1944 general election in Alberta. The C.C.F. advocated a policy of public development of this valuable natural resource. The government, backed by the newspaper advertisements of the oil interests, advocated a policy of unlimited private exploitation. The C.C.F. lost that election. The government won it and considered that it had a mandate to carry out its policy in the fullest possible degree. That policy has resulted in practically all the potential oil fields of the province being completely blanketed by huge American companies. The map printed in this paper in a recent issue showed how thoroughly Imperial Oil (Standard) and McCall-Frontenac (Texaco) had the rich Leduc field sewed up. The same situation prevails in every other important area.

At last public indignation has been aroused. For one thing the "little shots" among oil company promoters, who have been squeezed out by the "big shots", are beginning to howl. It is probably this rather than any solicitude for the people of the province that has moved the government to announce a change in policy. Fifty per cent of oil lands are now to be reserved for the province in areas where new leases are taken up. It is stated that this is to permit the "independents" to get in on the harvest of the people's oil.

But as Elmer Roper, C.C.F. Provincial Leader, said in a broadcast address, the new regulations are like locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen. The big grab has already been made.

They Are Unworthy

WHEN the people of Alberta elected the Social Credit government in 1935 it was because it had a positive program, and because its leaders appeared to possess a certain amount of social idealism.

By this time the people of the province have had plenty of evidence to disillusion them on both counts.

There is now no sign of a positive program. There is nothing but a vicious, unprincipled attack on other groups and a fatuous aping of the tactics of the "America Firsters" in smearing every progressive individual or movement with the charge of Communism.

The length to which they are going in this respect is illustrated by the speech of Norman Jaques in Calmar last week, when he charged that farm groups in Canada and the United States were dominated by Communists. When pressed to say what farm groups, he said, "Well, the A.F.U., for one." It was backed up in this charge by Hon. R. E. Ansley. But the A.F.U. shouldn't feel too badly about it. Every other progressive movement in the world is similarly branded by the Coughlins and Gerald L. K. Smiths in the United States and the Jaques and Lows in Canada.

As for social idealism in the leaders of the Social Credit movement, if there ever was any it has long since disappeared. Many of them have become professional politicians concerned only about feathering their own nests and trucking to the very "big shots" whom they were elected to "fight". Such questionable practices as using their membership in the legislature to incorporate themselves as a private automobile accident insurance company in one session, and then in the next session passing an act virtually forcing everyone to buy automobile insurance, would not be tolerated, even from "old party" legislators, anywhere in Canada. It is unthinkable that it will be tolerated in Alberta.

The cold, hard fact is that the Social Credit politicians have become everything, and are supporting everything, that they attacked so vigorously when they were first elected. They are not worthy of further support on any count.

Unfortunate Appointment

C.C.F. members of the Alberta legislature urged the government to appoint a representative commission to survey the relationship between the provincial government and the municipalities. Giving way to public opinion expressed in the C.C.F. demand the government has appointed a commission—composed of its own Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs.

The *Calgary Albertan* expresses very well what has already been said in other words by the *People's Weekly*:

"The more it is reflected upon, the more unfortunate seems to be the provincial government's appointment of a commission to investigate the taxation relationship between the province and the municipalities. The deputy minister of municipal affairs alone was asked to be the commission."

This must have been an embarrassment for Mr. Judge, the deputy minister. He was certainly "hot on the spot," exactly the same kind of a spot as the husband whose wife asks him, "Henry, am I really as pretty as when you married me?" Give me your honest opinion. Don't be afraid of hurting my feelings. Am I really still beautiful, Henry?" Henry can hardly be expected to give an unbiased and honest report, no matter how many times a year he goes to church.

Or take the case of a wage dispute between a company and its employees. The president appoints his general manager to arbitrate the dispute. The workers have a right to feel that his decision may be prejudiced.

Without detracting a particle from Mr. Judge's ability and fairness as a deputy minister, the fact remains that by virtue of his position he is not qualified to be a one-man commission to probe this important issue. Of course he can make an investigation for the government at any time, but that is different than an alleged independent and impartial commission.

THE THIRD COLUMN

BANKS WORST VIOLATORS
Plasterer and Cement Finisher

(June):

"Banks and trust companies are among the nation's worst violators of minimum wage legislation!"

"That shocking fact was disclosed by Thomas D. O'Malley, regional director of the United States Department of Labor's Wage-Hour and Public Contracts Divisions, in a blunt address to a conference of 16 bankers' associations held in this city. O'Malley is a former Wisconsin congressman."

"Many of the financial institutions are virtual sweatshops, his speech revealed. He pointed out that 20 per cent of such institutions inspected by the two divisions during 1946 were found to be paying some employees less than the legal 'floor' of 40 cents an hour."

"That rate of violations of the minimum wage provisions is 'twice as high as the national average for all industries covered by the law,' O'Malley said."

"Equally bad, he declared, is the fact that another 29 per cent of the banks and trust firms inspected were found to have violated at least one other major provision of the law—that is, the overtime pay requirements or the restrictions on child labor or both."

★

AND STILL THEY CLIMB

Christian Science Monitor

August 23:

"Corporate net income for six months of 402 companies having common stock listed on the New York Stock Exchange amounted to \$1,681,920,000, an increase of 97.9 per cent over profits of the same companies in the first half of 1946."

★

GOODBYE, MR. JACQUES

The *Wetaskiwin Times*:
"Wetaskiwin has been receiving considerable international publicity through its representative in the Dominion Parliament, Norman Jaques. But the type of publicity we have been receiving is not welcome even to those most enthusiastic about 'putting Wetaskiwin on the map.' Our federal M.P., with his penchant for stirring up racial animosity, has always been a source of embarrassment to his constituents, but we have overlooked this weakness in the hope that the rest of Canada would take his pet peeve with a grain of salt as we do at home."

"The recent request of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith that he be barred from entry into the United States puts things in a different light. This latest development is the straw that breaks the camel's back in the relations between Mr. Jaques and his constituents. . . . About the only time we see our federal member in Wetaskiwin is when he descends on us during an election to inform us of the dire plots against democracy which he has uncovered at Ottawa and other Eastern points. He also makes an excellent job of impressing us with his high-sounding opinions on international finance."

"This final event in the hectic career of Mr. Jaques should make him see the handwriting on the wall. We say 'final' advisedly because we believe it will touch off a chain of reaction that will see Mr. Jaques back on the street as a private citizen following the next election. . . ."

"For Jew-hatred and no time for racialism in Western Canada it is this very freedom that has kept the muzzles off Mr. Jaques for so many years. But we have had enough."

- FOOTPRINTS -

The Time Is Now

By J. P. GRIFFIN

"Ye Shall Know the Truth"

THE world today seems to be full of those who are trying to confuse mankind by clouding the truth. It seems so full because the witch-hunters own all the loudest means of propaganda. A few centuries ago they cried "the Christians to the lions"; a little later, "the heretics to the stake" and now, "the Communists to the lock-up."

The well-paid mouthpieces of industry have carefully cultivated a fear in the minds of the Canadian people by speaking of the C.C.F. as Communists. Well, let's bring this suspicion out into the open. Are we like Communism? Where shall we draw a line? Christianity is like Communism. Joseph Stalin is like Mr. Manning and Mr. King. Each of them are human, have one common Creator, and will come at last to die. A great English writer once said that the Western democracies are places where the teachings of Jesus are preached but not practiced, and the U.S.S.R. is where they are practiced but never preached, and this is as correct as such generalizations usually are. Is it not evident that every political party and every organized religion have some mutual points of contact? Do they not all meet and mingle somewhere? In this sense the C.C.F., Social Credit, and the Liberal Party have all some likeness to Communism.

But where do we differ? Here it is much easier to draw a line. We differ in method. Communists believe (some quite sincerely)

in setting up a "dictatorship" by a few highly trained leaders. They claim that the common people must be directed to get the best results. That they "are not ready for Socialism" now, whatever they may be in the future. They believe in exercising compulsion by the well-trained few over the masses for the masses' future benefit. In no other way, they say, can Socialism come.

The C.C.F. completely rejects this program. We are nowhere trying to set up a closely-knit party to compel the people of Canada to do anything. We are content to patiently explain our program to anyone who cares to listen, until a majority of the electors of the Province or the Dominion agree with us in what they want to do. The C.C.F. does not want power for itself. We do not want power until you and your neighbors want the C.C.F. We believe that already many Canadians do want Socialism, and know why they want it too. We believe that already the masses have sufficient experience in democratic procedure to manage their own affairs, effectively, freely and without compulsion from anyone else.

On the other hand the monopolists and the politicians that support them are contemptuous of labor, the farmer, and the "thirteen year old's". They are sure that no one else can run the country in the way that they are doing, and as we look at the mess they make of it, not many of us want to either.

Oh, Democracy!

J. E. COOK,

President, Alberta C.C.F.

IN the name of democracy wars have been fought. In the name of democracy the possibilities of Peace have been repeatedly lost. In the name of democracy propaganda has made fools of intelligent, but busy men and women, who have wanted only to further democracy. In the name democracy has been all things to all men and women.

There was a meeting in Calmar recently addressed by elected representatives of the people of Leduc provincial constituency, Wetaskiwin Federal and Peace River Federal, Hon. R. E. Ansley, Norman Jaques, the leader of the Social Credit party in Canada, and M.P. for Peace River, Solon E. Low. No democratic, moderate or doctrinaire, could fail to be disturbed by the "party line" outlined there.

Under Private Ownership
These must be smart politicians. They have been in office for fourteen years as representatives of Alberta electors. They started in 1935 with a theory that distribution of social credit was possible in a private-ownership-of-industry economy. They believed, further, that it was possible to distribute this privately-owned-credit, publicly, in one province of Canada. They believed that credit, whether private or social, whether publicly or privately owned, can provide goods and services, in continuous stream, for use, and that within the framework of production, profit-for-private-owners of the machine of 'production, plenty may be produced and distributed for use.

A New Carrot
They promised to make a start

on this in 18 months. They were wrong on every part of the program that has been tried to date. There is no social credit in Alberta but the Social Credit government has gone ultra-orthodox to re-establish Financial credit. But now there is a new carrot to hand on the lead stick.

Mr. Jaques says there are three villains to blame: International Zionists, International Finance, and International Communism. Mr. Low says the answer to our troubles today is to abolish in the name of democracy what democracy we have, the ballot box, and set up a Union of Electors to demand results by letter to your representatives.

Mr. Jaques' Argument
Mr. Jaques says that all unions are dominated and controlled by Communists and that International Communism fosters International Zionism. International Zionism in turn fosters International Finance, according to Mr. Jaques. Mr. Jaques himself has no particular bias against Jews, he says, but why should the other countries like the Jews to pick on the Arabs? Mr. Jaques is at a loss to understand why people do not see, that while the only way to stop war is to make an agreement with other nations, just as soon as you do make an agreement you will have lost some of your sovereignty and then your freedom is all gone.

Ask Mr. Low
Mr. Low, who is a very plausible speaker with a pleasant appearance and the old schoolmaster technique, thinks Jaques is one of the strong men of Canada and certainly makes other party M.P.'s look foolish, when he gets up and tells them just what is what. But he still thinks that the trouble is not all in the three great international criminal organizations, but lies in the structure of the system.
(Continued on Page 8)

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REMEMBER—YOU SAW IT IN THE "PEOPLE'S WEEKLY."
"Patronize Our Advertisers!"

It's The People's Oil

Radio Address by Elmer E. Roper, M.L.A.

I HAVE three letters to answer. One says, "A Social Credit speaker out here talked about your broadcasts and said, 'ask the C.C.F. where it gets the money to carry on a broadcast every week over four different stations,' so I am asking you where do you get the money for your broadcasting?"

The answer is that every cent used to pay for C.C.F. radio talks comes from listeners, and nobody knows this better than the gentleman who asked you to ask the question. You see, all contributions to our radio fund are acknowledged publicly in the People's Weekly. If you send for a copy of the paper you'll see what I mean.

Oil Regulations
The second letter wants to know about the new oil regulations announced by the government. Says the writer: "I heard on the radio an announcement by the Government saying that from now on in leasing oil lands fifty per cent of the land would be reserved by the government. Does this mean that the government has agreed to do what you have been advocating in your radio talks?"

The answer is that while the government has been compelled to give way to public indignation against the scandalous manner in which the valuable rights of the people have been given away to the oil monopolies, the new regulations strike me as a frenzied rush to lock the stable door after most of the horses have been stolen.

C.C.F. Policy
But that isn't all. The C.C.F. program is this: "In any area where exploratory activity is being carried on, there shall be reserved for the province, and developed by public ownership where the field is proven, checker-board areas equal in size to those leased to private corporations or individuals."

This policy, as you will see, not only provides for the reservation of oil lands for the people, but it also provides for the development of such lands for the people, so that the people of the province, whose oil it is, shall get

at least as much of it as the private companies get.

The only argument against this is the stupid one advanced by the Alberta daily newspapers. They say, "why should the province get as much out of the oil field as the company who risked its capital to prove the field?"

It's The People's Oil
But why not? It's the people's oil. It shouldn't be grabbed on a basis of finders keepers. Admitting that the private corporation is entitled to a fair return for finding the oil, surely the people of the province who own the oil have a right to reserve for themselves, and to bring to the surface, at least as much of it as they allow the private corporation to get.

For Private Companies
But the new regulations by the government don't provide for that kind of a program. The government doesn't believe in any development of our resources by the people, for the people. Its plan to reserve fifty per cent of the lands in any new area is so that it can be given to more companies, thus, it claims, preventing a monopoly.

The C.C.F. plan is to reserve at least fifty per cent of the oil rights and to develop them for the full benefit of the people when a field is proven, so that taxes in the province can be reduced and social services improved.

A third letter I want to answer says, "It looks as if another plank in the C.C.F. program may be stolen from you. I heard the other day that a cabinet minister had said that the government was going to do something about rural electrification before the next election. I enclosed a letter for your broadcast. Even if I were not a supporter of the C.C.F. I think it would pay the people of Alberta to keep you on the air to prod the government to do things for the people that it wouldn't do if we didn't have such a vigorous opposition party."

Thanks, brother, for your kind words, but I suggest that the C.C.F. program can best be carried out by a C.C.F. government.

SASKATCHEWAN HAS INSURANCE SURPLUS \$66,761

REGINA.—The Saskatchewan Government Insurance Office recently turned over to the Government Finance Office a two-year surplus of \$66,761.48 on its ordinary insurance business, Hon. G. W. Valleau, minister in charge, announced recently.
This surplus, which has no connection with the Automobile Accident Insurance plan, was made up of a \$6,386.60 surplus obtained during the first year of operation and \$60,392.10 made during the second year, which ended March 31, 1947.

Built Up Assets
Termed by Mr. Valleau "the largest insurance business in Saskatchewan," the government Office has also built up assets totalling \$1,783,049, which includes assets under the Automobile Accident Insurance plan. Of this total, \$1,557,255 is held in the form of investments, 97 per cent of them consisting of Saskatchewan securities.

Premium Income
Premium income of the Insurance Office during the first year was \$236,287.20 and during the second year \$737,054.90, making a two-year total of \$973,342.10, exclusive of premiums under the auto insurance plan.

A break-down of premium income shows that \$642,995 came from fire insurance, \$186,044 from ordinary automobile insurance, and \$143,701 from various other types, such as windstorm, liability, cargo, burglary, plate glass, etc.

Mr. Valleau gave the disposition of the total income of the two years as follows:

Set aside as unearned premium reserve, \$375,996.38; used for incurred claims under policies, \$204,253.64; used for re-insuring heavy risks and for other reserves, \$139,951.25; commissions and other administration expenses, \$186,379.35; surplus available to government, \$66,761.48.

Sympathy Extended To Mrs. Shortliffe

Sympathy of the C.C.F. is extended to Mrs. D. L. Shortliffe, prominent worker in the Edmonton movement, whose mother, Mrs. Joanna Brownell of this city, passed away on August 23 following a lengthy illness. The funeral was held on Tuesday, August 26, at Howard and McBride's chapel with Rev. H. Flanagan officiating.

After the christening the vicar complimented the parents on the fact that their baby did not cry during the ceremony.

"Well, you see," explained the proud mother, "we've been getting him used to it with a watering can."

LIESEMER SPEAKS AT MEDICINE HAT

Union Representative Says Wage Scale Lowest in Western Canada

DONATE \$35 TO UNION

MEDICINE HAT—"It is high time for a change in government at Edmonton and at Ottawa, for all old line party governments—Social Credit as well as Liberal and Tory—are committed to maintain monopoly capitalism," said A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A. in a public meeting held here by the Medicine Hat C.C.F. Only the C.C.F. proposes to change the rule by monopoly into a rule by and for the people, the speaker said.

Mr. Liesemer pointed out that a change was needed in the government at Edmonton because decay and incompetence to meet the developing crisis had set in upon a government that had deserted the Alberta citizen for the sake of the Eastern and foreign financier.

Lowest Wage Scale

A large number of the young men and women workers from Medallia Potteries, who are struggling for a minimum wage agreement, were present. A union representative had been invited to tell the story from the workers' point of view. He stated that while Medicine Hat is perhaps the most completely industrialized city in Alberta that the general wage scale in this area is the lowest in Western Canada. "The struggle at Medallia Potteries is but one phase of the struggle that is opening all across the continent," the speaker concluded, "and is an effort on the part of industry not only to depress wages but to smash organized labor itself."

It was announced that a previous membership meeting of the C.C.F. had voted the sum of \$35 from its somewhat restricted resources to the union for assistance to the dependents of the workers in the affected industries in Medicine Hat.

A couple was ushered into the courtroom as their case was called. The wife was a strong, healthy, broad-shouldered Irish woman; her husband a meek and obviously submissive little man.

The judge looked sharply at the meek male and spoke:

"You are accused of beating your wife. What have you to say?"

"Guilty, your honor," said the little man unhesitatingly.

"Seven dollars or seven days," was the magistrate's prompt decision.

Later, a court official, commenting on the case, asked the magistrate if he hadn't been a bit severe in punishing the poor, little fellow.

"Well," was the response, "I had to give him something for bragging!"

Only Two Alternatives For The People Says Coldwell

OTTAWA (CPA).—"Labor parties with programs exactly like that of the C.C.F., and organized on very similar lines, have proven themselves capable of government through the most difficult years of recent history... and will have a direct influence on the future of democracy throughout the world," M. J. Coldwell, C.C.F. national leader, told C.B.C. listeners in a coast-to-coast broadcast from Ottawa on August 27.

Mr. Coldwell described the achievements of the Labor Parties of Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, whose representatives will meet as guests of the C.C.F. in a second conference of Commonwealth Labor parties in Toronto this month.

Old System Dead
"In Europe and Asia the old capitalist system is dead. It failed to save the world from depression and from war. It has proven completely incapable of restoring the economic well-being of war-ravaged countries. Everywhere, therefore, the people are seeking a new way and a new social and economic system."

Two Alternatives
"In this search, they are confronted with two, and only two, alternatives: They have the alternative of totalitarian communism, and exemplified by Russia, or the alternative of democratic socialism, as exemplified by the Labor

Parties of the British Commonwealth.

"If our policies fail, if that is to say, the selfish forces of big business and reaction succeed in bringing disaster to our countries, then the suffering millions of Europe and Asia will turn to the totalitarian solution of communism."

"If, on the other hand, the Labor Governments of Britain, Australia and New Zealand, are able to succeed in building successful planned economies through and with democracy, and if similar parties in the rest of the British Commonwealth, including the C.C.F. in Canada, are able to make rapid progress in the same direction, then the world will have before it a concrete example of economic security with democratic freedom. Given the possibility of economic prosperity, together with 'full democracy,' there can be no question where the rest of the world will go."

Edmonton C.C.F. Women to Meet At Mrs. Marliiss Home

The regular meeting of the Edmonton C.C.F. Women's Club will be held Monday, September 8, at 8 p.m., at the home of Mrs. B. Marliiss, 8009 112 avenue South. Let's start off the new season's activities with a good crowd in attendance.

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Union Battles Swift Monopoly

By Lorne Ingle

IN their current dispute with the United Packinghouse Workers, Swift Canadian Co. are relying on the old argument that they cannot afford an increase in wages without increasing prices. They are probably counting on the fact that figures and data on their operations and financial position are not generally known to the Canadian public.



Swift Canadian Co. is, of course, not "Canadian" at all. It is one of three wholly-owned Canadian subsidiaries of Swift & Co. of the United States, one of the largest, if not the largest, packing firms in the world. The parent organization has plants in almost every large city in the U.S.A., besides 50 subsidiary companies in the United States, Canada, Cuba, Argentina, Uruguay, Australia, Brazil, New Zealand, Great Britain and continental Europe. It operates, literally, "around the world."

The Canadian subsidiary is the second largest meat-packing firm in Canada and together with Canada Packers enjoys a semi-monopolistic position. Evidence before the Price Spreads Commission in 1935 indicated that Canada Packers and Swifts between them accounted for 85% of Canadian sales. Other evidence before the Commission indicated that Canada Packers and Swift Canadian Co. were in daily consultation with one another before making offerings at the Toronto stock yards. The following is a direct quotation from the Report of the Commission:

"The dominant position of the two large companies, with extensive storage facilities and control of a great proportion of the slaughtering equipment in the country, has undoubtedly secured for them some measure of control over both livestock prices and selling prices for their product. While there is no direct evidence of a combination between these companies, we are not persuaded that prices have been subject to the same fluctuations as might be expected in a more generally competitive field."

The parent firm, too, has monopolistic tendencies. Ever since 1920 Swift & Co. have been running foul of the American anti-trust laws. In 1929 the company was ordered by the U.S. courts to dispose of all holdings and stock in allied industries. In 1932 they were ordered to transfer their stockyard holdings to a

trustee. In 1941, under court direction, the company sold to underwriters its interest in Libby, McNeill and Libby, a large fruit and vegetable canning concern which in turn operates around the world.

No Financial Statement
The Canadian section of this U.S. colossus issues no financial statement (since it has no Canadian shareholders) and it is with difficulty that any information can be obtained concerning its operations and their financial results.

However, a search of the latest report of the company in Moody's Industrials reveals that in the year ending October 27th, 1945, the main Canadian subsidiary, Swift Canadian Co., made a net profit, after taxes and all expenses, of \$804,340 (U.S. funds). In Canadian money this is approximately \$894,000. In the year ending October 26th, 1946, however, the net profit in U.S. funds

was \$851,470 of approximately \$936,000 in Canadian money. Thus the profits increased by over \$40,000. That ain't his brother!

The report for 1947 will not be out for another four months, but with rising prices and a sure market for everything produced it is a safe bet that Swift's 1947 profits will be far ahead of 1946. It is also interesting to note that between 1945 and 1946 the total assets of the Canadian company increased from \$17,094,109 to \$19,933,811 or by \$2,839,702 (approximately \$3,155,200 Canadian funds).

The net profits of the "Canadian" company are lost, however, in the \$16,304,739 net profits of the parent U.S. company for 1946 (\$12,303,807 for the year before). Beef and hogs are not the only killings being made by Swift & Co.!

No Alternative
In spite of increased profits the

company in recent negotiations with the Union wanted to cut the guaranteed hours per week from 37½ to 36 and reduce earnings by 2 to 10 cents per hour. The Union countered with a demand for a 15 cent increase. In addition, the company wanted the Union to give up some of the Union security provisions it has in its present contract.

In spite of these demands, however, the Union continued to negotiate until the company in a high-handed bit of action suspended 12 union officers and stewards at the Toronto plant and locked-out 150 employees at the New Westminster plant, charging a "slowdown." Whatever may have been the reason for any drop in production the Union firmly maintained that it had nothing to do with the taking of a strike-vote or the negotiations between the Company and the Union. The Union had no alternative but to call a strike to protect its members.

Nationalizing Australia's Banking System

By Kathleen E. Jones

COTTESLOE, Perth, Australia (CPA).—On Saturday, August 16th, Labor Prime Minister Chifley threw down the gauntlet in a challenge which may lead to one of the bitterest fights ever known in Australia between socialism and capitalism. Weekend leisure for private enterprise was ruined by Chifley's announcement that the government will introduce a bill to the Federal Parliament, which resumes September, to nationalize all banks other than State banks. This followed the defeat in the High Court of Australia of an amendment to the Banking Act requiring local and semi-governmental bodies to bank with the nationally-owned and operated Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

The outcome of the new move will undoubtedly be decided by High Court judges who have the final say in the interpretation of Federal powers under the Constitution of Australia. The passage of the proposed nationalization bill through parliament seems assured with Labor's comfortable majority.

Legal Contest

But the next step will be a big legal contest in the High Court when the legislation is challenged by private banking interests and the interlocking interests of big business. The reference of this legislation to the interpretation of the High Court to obtain a decision on its validity under the constitution has long been a stumbling block in the implementation of the Labor Government's policies which contain a large measure of socialization. Several attempts through referenda vote to the nation to amend the Constitution and make certain of Federal powers have been unsuccessful during the last few decades.

Owned By The Nation

The central banking setup in Australia is the Commonwealth bank of Australia, with a Savings Branch, which is owned and operated by the nation. Unlike the Bank of Canada, it functions the same as commercial banks in addition to serving financial needs of the government. Under the emergency wartime powers the Commonwealth Bank was given limited measure of control over certain aspects of the commercial banks, but until Saturday the announcement of complete nationalization of banking had remained only a vague and dusty plank on the labor platform.

Monday, the first business day after the announcement, private

banks rushed to engage legal counsel to contest the action in the High Court, though all conceded the automatic passage of the proposed Bill through Parliament when the session is resumed shortly. However, bank shares today showed little reaction on the Stock Exchange.

Papers Opposed

Two of the leading Australian metropolitan papers, in Sydney, backed their private enterprise horse with many columns of anti-nationalization propaganda and the news figured in every editorial throughout the country. But powerful trade unions equally quick, declared their solid support for this move in terms leaving private enterprise in no doubt where the workers stand. The Australasian Council of Trade Unions, mouthpiece of organized labor here, will further be urged by its members shortly to extend nationalization still farther with the demand of socialization of coal, steel and building industries, claiming about the latter that rackets and big profits are holding up construction in vitally-needed homes.

Chifley Leads Fight

The fight for nationalization of banks was led by the shrewd laconic J. B. Chifley who through-out the war and continuing into the postwar period holds the position of Federal Treasurer in ad-

dmission to the Prime Ministership. Veteran of many battles with Liberal and adjacent opposition parties, and with judges of the High Court, Chifley undoubtedly weighed the chances carefully before participating this move. His record as Treasurer, and the financial and economic stability of Australia today, places him high as the outstanding financial advisor to the nation. His policy is usually "make haste slowly" but he is stubborn and tenacious when decisions are taken.

Menzies Leads Opposition

Opposition in the Federal Parliament will be led by Opposition leader, Liberal Robert G. Menzies, former Prime Minister, and eminent lawyer, outstanding speaker and a man of undoubted ability. But he is unpopular in his own party and has never commanded much support from the Australian public.

However, the parliamentary battle is second to the High Court fight from which there is no appeal under the Australian constitution. Working with Chifley is Attorney-General Dr. Evatt who relinquished a high judgeship to enter politics as a labor adherent. He has an international reputation and is well-known and equally competent in the national sphere. He is now engaged in the

(Continued on Page 8)

Union Doings

By Our Labor Correspondent

Edmonton truck drivers returned to work on Monday, August 25th, after nearly two weeks of strike. By that time the fight had grown to include the drivers of four companies, and strike votes had been taken in two other companies.

The dispute is not settled however, as the return-to-work order is not part of a final settlement. The Union is demanding, and will continue to fight for 85c per hour. At the request of Mr. Pugh, Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry, Union officials met with city transfer officers, on Saturday, August 23. Mr. Pugh's proposal to return to work on a temporary truce arrangement was accepted by both parties.

Since then some misunderstanding has arisen, as a result of unclear press reports. The Union agreed to return to work at 80c per hour for the strike, 75c for warehousemen and helpers, in the hope that remaining differences could be settled by negotiations. This does not mean that the Union has reduced its demands. Nor does it mean that the Union accepts the differential between warehousemen's and helpers' wages, as provided in the truce agreement as a precedent. There has not been such a differential in the past, and there is no reason why there should be one in the future. Neither has the Union surrendered its demand of \$1.15 per hour for trucks, making a rate of \$2.00 per hour for man and truck.

The Union retains its legal position to continue the strike. Technically the strike is not over, merely suspended in the hope that final settlement can be reached with as little inconvenience to the public as possible.

The agreement was signed by six companies. Other companies have agreed to pay the same rates of pay, i.e. 80c per hour, the rate set as "the floor" for further negotiations.

Scott Fruit Workers Walk Out
Prior to the signing of the truce agreement with the Transfer Companies the workers of the Scott Fruit Company, the most of them new members of the Teamsters and Warehousemen Local 514, were obliged to strike. While the strike was not called by the Union, being forced upon the employees, the Union is supporting the workers to the limit. The dispute at time of writing is 8 days old, the picket line is firm, the spirit of the workers high.

Help is sorely needed. All communications should be addressed to the Teamsters Local 514 at Edmonton Labor Temple.

The Board of Industrial Relations, on its Provincial tour of investigation of the taxi business heard from the taxi drivers of Edmonton on Wednesday last, at an open meeting of taxi drivers and the members of the Board. The employers have applied for an Industrial Standards Schedule that would exempt them from the Hours of Work provisions of the Alberta Labor Act. The taxi drivers were unanimous in voting their opposition.

Street Railway Employees Determined

The course of the dispute of the Street Railway Employees and the City has aroused great interest in the Trade Union and Labor Movement here. It has taken the usual path; no agreement through conciliation. The appointment of a Board of Arbitration which recommended an increase of 3c per hour as of January up to June 14th; then a 9c increase for the remaining months of the year. The offer was accepted by the Union but turned down by the City. The City has now offered a straight 6c per hour increase. Up to time of writing the Union is standing fast to its demands.



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Swedish Co-operation Marches On

STOCKHOLM (CPA)—Swedish co-operation marches on. Every sixth Stockholm is now co-operatively insured, according to figures released by the co-operative insurance society "Folk-sam." The society is making rapid progress, thanks to its attractive premium policy and effective organization, and has just taken over another private insurance company in Stockholm.

Government figures show that every other Swedish family belongs to a co-operative society of some kind. The 676 local consumer societies increased their membership in 1946 by 22,000.

The Swedish wholesale society (Kooperativa Forbundet) has offered the German wholesale society (G.E.G.) in Hamburg 250,000 electric lamps for distribution among its retail affiliates. G.E.G.'s membership jour-

nal is printed on paper made available by the Swedish society.

Buy Brickyard

The wholesale society and the co-operative housing associations have purchased a brickyard with a share capital of some \$50,000, 400 which provides the bulk of Stockholm's bricks.

The Kooperativa Forbundet has asked the Swedish price control authorities to reduce the price of linoleum, considered to be excessive. Background to the request is the fact that Swedish linoleum production is controlled by an international trust having its headquarters in Switzerland, and considerable sums have gone out of the country in profits. During the war K.F. succeeded in buying up a large number of shares in the Swedish factory but it has not been able to enforce the demand for a price cut of 15 per cent.

Back To School



Now that the annual back to school movement is under way, radio people as well as students and teachers have a special interest in school curricula. In the picture above, R. S. Lambert, supervisor of school broadcasts for the CBC, and Alene Kamins, 12-year-old radio actress, run through a script in preparation for a new series of National School Broadcasts to begin in October.

Poland's Rebirth

The Warsaw Opera House, and the thrilling strains of Aida, above a city of ghastly ruins. That is the symbolic picture of Polish hope and faith in the midst of devastation, painted by a former Czech newspaperwoman, Dr. Lotta Hitschmanova, now overseas on behalf of the Unitarian Service Committee, in a letter to C.P.A.'s Ottawa reporter:

Poland, August 16th, 1947.

Dear Friend: I have spent the last ten days in Poland and have so many things to tell you that it is difficult to find a beginning. I do not want to discuss any political questions. I came as a social worker, and not as a newspaper woman—but I know that people will question me on this subject once I am back in Canada. Just let me say that I did not yet discover the iron curtain; we travel as freely here in Poland as in Canada. I have never been asked for my identification papers.

Like a Nightmare

The last three days in Warsaw will stand out in my memory as long as I live, as one of the most obsessing nightmares I have ever had. This city is 90% destroyed, but that probably does not say much to you. You would have to wander through the ruins as I did; see how people live in the only room of the house which is still standing, surrounded by bricks, old pieces of metal, the smell of dead bodies covered with earth.

At night, the city has a still more frightful appearance, when you look through the burned houses and sometimes discover a dim light: people are living there. Before the war, Warsaw had 1,300,000 inhabitants. Today, 90% destroyed, it has 400,000 people. They house in dugouts, in cellars, on the street—they sleep in the parks now that the nights are not cold yet.

Rebuilding University

I shall tell our Canadian students about Warsaw University which is now being rebuilt by brigades of students from France, Bulgaria, Rumania. Two Canadian students helped during a few days, our Canadian Attache told me, and once they hoisted the Canadian flag on their newest built wall. Imagine that every brick has to be removed from the ruins by hand, and taken by a horse-drawn cart to the new places where buildings are being constructed according to the Warsaw Planning Board. In 20 years, the city is to be reconstructed and some old parts completely rebuilt. The part which once was the ghetto before the Nazi fury passed over it, does not exist at all. The streets there are levelled to the ground — an immense Lidice.

Wonderful Spirit

What strikes me so much and so deeply in Poland is the wonderful spirit of the people. It is more astounding yet than in Czechoslovakia, because Poles have to cope with much greater material difficulties. There is not one family in this country which has not lost at least one member through German brutality. There is mourning, of course, but foremost this strong will of reconstruction, of building a new, happier future.

It is most remarkable that Poland's Ministry of Health and Edu-



DR. LOTTA HITSCHMANOVA.

cation have a larger estimate than the Ministry of War. Children's Homes are springing up everywhere. There are half a million orphans in this country to care for. Many of their fathers and mothers died in the concentration camps at Oswiecim — five million people were massacred there. We spent a whole day there and I shall never forget it.

At the Opera

Last night in Warsaw, we went to the Opera House to hear Aida. It is one of the very first buildings which has been completely rebuilt in 1945-46. It is incredible to find such a theater among the ruins, such singers, such settings. I am absolutely enthusiastic, and again I regret that you cannot be here and see that I do not exaggerate. During the intermissions you walk out on the balcony, to look out on the shattered city whose silhouette stands out against the grey sky; an absolutely fantastic and ghastly sight, but inside the theatre there are music-lovers, brave people who forget their hardships and sorrows for a few hours and go home with the conviction that in a few years, Poland will have recovered.

This genuine belief in Poland's reconstruction, in Poland's rebirth, makes all I see and hear, so dramatic. The head people in all the offices are young, keen, full of devotion. We met a director of a children's home (I shall tell you more about him when I get back) who works from 4 a.m. to midnight. The director for Child Welfare in Polish Silesia has her last appointment at 10 p.m. Hard work, great patriotism, courage, you can find these everywhere.—Sincerely yours,

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A BIT OF Nonsense

Cary Grant objects to women parading down either Fifth Ave. or Sunset Boulevard in slacks. He would like to go up to every one of them and hiss in their shell-pink ear: "Does the end justify the jeans?"

When big, affable catcher Gabby Hartnett came as a rookie to join the Chicago Cubs, he was immediately sent into service in a game against Cincinnati.

Just before game time, a sports writer approached him, "Is this the first big league game you've ever caught?" he was asked.

"This," replied Gabby, "is the first big league game I ever saw."

Recruiting for the armed forces is reported to be going ahead at a pretty lively rate. Probably a lot of young fellows have discovered that being a civilian is a luxury they cannot afford at this time.

TEXTILE FIRMS JUBILANT OVER HOBBLE SKIRTS

OTTAWA (CPA).—Businessmen are putting women in hobble skirts, and rubbing their hands in glee as female customers pay out hard cash for the new styles which nobody likes.

In "Batson's Canadian Reports of Business Men and Investors" (Aug. 18) is this choice item:

"We are told that while the drastic fashion changes in women's apparel were originally greeted with strong objections, the 95% are now reluctantly following the 5% who set the style, with consequent replacement needs for the individual woman's wardrobe. That, of course, is exactly what the textile industry wants. It will provide a much needed stimulus to sales."

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LABOR DIRECTORY

Look Here for Information Regarding Officers, Meetings, etc., of Trade Unions and Other Labor Organizations in the Province.

Brewery, Flour, Cereal & Soft Drink Workers of America No. 314—Meets 3rd Wednesday in Labor Hall, President, D. O. Roberts, 8611 83rd Avenue, Soft Drink Branch Secretary, 0387 80th Avenue, phone 33916; Secy-Treasurer, J. Flowers, 16832 75th Street, phone 71037; Delivered by, J. Lindzey, 10784 95th Street, phone 23941.

Carpenters & Joiners of America Local 1325, Edmonton, Alta., United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America—Meets 1st and 4th Fridays in the Labor Temple, President, J. A. Logan, 9157 Jasper Avenue; Fin. Sec'y, L. B. Toland, 9228 101A Ave.; Rec. Sec'y, W. G. Stanton, 12065 94

Street: Treasurer, J. A. S. Smith, 13332 95A Street; Business Agent, J. P. Craig, Labor Temple.

Garnet Workers of America No. 120, United—Meets second Wednesday in each month in Labour Hall, President, Percy Williamson, 9218 108a Ave. Recording Secretary, Mrs. A. Smith, c/o G.W.G. Co.

Fire Fighters—No. 209, International Association of—Meets in No. 2 Fire Hall, President, Tom Steele, 9444 105th St., Edmonton; Secretary-Treasurer, W. Young, 12111 Jasper Ave., Edmonton.

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PERSONAL STUFF

(Continued from page 1)

month. I know you'll read it and I think you'll like it."

Then Bill will know where the paper comes from when he gets it in the mail next week. And he'll accept it as a neighborly gesture and will be more than ordinarily interested in it because it comes from you. And knowing you get the paper too, the chances are he'll want to discuss with you, the next time you meet, something he saw in last week's edition. It will provide a point of contact between you that you didn't have before. But don't neglect to speak to him first, before he gets his first copy. Then he'll be looking for it with interest and may be even a little curiosity. So if you send off the dollar for Bill's subscription on the day you read this, as I hope you will, be sure you make a point to see Bill the next day or at least within a week.

Is this asking too much? I don't think so. Frankly I don't think any of us do enough to build the C.C.F. If we really believe that this movement of ours with its program of social democracy does offer to Canada and to the world a worthwhile alternative to the fascist rightism on the one hand and totalitarian leftism on the other, no sacrifice in time or money is too much for us to make. And if we fail to do the little easy things that we can conveniently do to make our program better known to those about us, what good are we to the cause in which we profess to believe? There can be no hope for the human race in any movement in which the mass of the people depend on the activities of a few individuals, however prodigious. The history of movements founded on the dynamic leadership of so-called "great men" has been all alike. In the end there has been sorrow and disillusion for the masses. That's why the C.C.F. insists on building a people's movement by the active participation of the people. And no matter how successful the C.C.F. may be in winning popular support, it will still have failed miserably unless its success has been built on the willing, active and constant participation of its membership in all its affairs.

And who can deny that the first duty of a member of any movement is to promote its growth and influence? And what easier way can we of the C.C.F. do than by putting our paper into the homes of those whom we'd like to have with us? Will you join me in this campaign to put the People's Weekly into ten thousand more homes? If the answer is "yes," send the dollar and your neighbor's name and address to me personally, will you? I ask that because I'd like to know the people who respond to this challenge. If I have to write ten thousand people to acknowledge your letters—well, I'll enjoy that too!

Oh Democracy!

(Continued from Page 4)

pidity and animosity of political organizations.

He does not believe in political parties, albeit it heads one. He believes that everybody in any given constituency, some 40 thou-

sand voters, should just make a simple, unanimous, demand. If you do not know what to demand, as the L'Union des Electeurs in Quebec did not, just ask Mr. Low. He advised them to demand lower taxes and lowered the brows of Quebec M.P.'s no end. The 1946 and the 1947 budgets he says show lowered tax schedules as a result.

Too Simple

In last school teacher tradition Mr. Low snaps his fingers and says: "How many of you don't want the high taxes you now pay? Hands up. Let's see." Fifteen hands, at least, in the front rows of the faithful went up. "How many against? Nobody. There you are. Unanimous." Just like that, simple, yes, too simple, foolish.

Who wants the high taxes? Taxes less the graft and the high cost of collecting them are for the purpose of redistribution of income. Certainly the government does not want them. Go ahead, ask the government to abolish them and then look for social services.

Taxes are no more equitably distributed than the opportunity and the income of this great nation. But taxes pay for such social services as are provided for the under-privileged.

"Stupid Assinine"

"I just wish every great urban centre in Canada could hear the wonderful message that Mr. Lowe brings," mourned Mr. Ansley. The message is: All other parties are stupid, assinine and unbelievably vicious in their intent. The ballot box is a racket. Political parties are a snare and a delusion. Communism will be responsible for war. War will follow depression. The way to stop depression is to lower taxes. The way to lower taxes is to have each constituency organize itself into unions of voters all of whom will, of course, automatically agree. It won't matter if we do not agree. Just ask Low what to do. Low may consult Jacques. But even if he doesn't, chin up and smile. Jacques may insist that the farm unions be declared ultra-communist-vires, but the union of electors will be there.

Does Mr. Low think we will swallow this again? One listener remarked: "Well, it is not funny. Bigger mouthfuls have gone down without choking Alberta people. But let us not swallow it in the name of democracy. Let's call it what it is."

Jacques Attacks

(Continued from page 1)

caution there were several lively exchanges between Mr. Jacques, Mr. Young, Mr. H. E. Nichols of Edmonton, and other members of the audience.

Ansley Supports Jacques

Hon. R. E. Ansley supported the statement of Mr. Jacques, and said he had heard a director of the A.F.U. from Stony Plain, brag that the technique of the A.F.U. in their non-delivery strike of last year had followed closely the advice received from C.I.O. Communist agitators, who had been trained in such strike technique.

Hon. Solon Low was the principal speaker at the meeting. Mr. Low and Mr. Ansley were unavoidably detained and did not reach the meeting, called for 8 p.m. until almost 11 o'clock. The meeting was opened about 9:30 p.m. and Mr. Jacques assumed the responsibility of carrying on. He took advantage of the opportunity to defend himself against the

widespread attacks against his position on many matters of national and international affairs.

He explained that in the thinking of himself and his party two great evils exist. Communism and war. His position on the Palestine matter, his opposition to the U.N. and the whole question of Canada's participation in International affairs comes from what he conceives to be a patriot's stand, he said.

Mr. Jacques said he had addressed tremendous gatherings in the United States for which he had been criticized but maintained that his associates there were real patriots and actuated by deep-rooted motives of loyalty and patriotism.

Can "Prove" It

Communism, said Mr. Jacques, is permeating unions and political and social organizations of all kinds. He said some farm unions and organizations of the United States and Canada, were completely dominated by Communists. "I can prove this, if you want me to," Mr. Jacques told the meeting.

It was in this connection that questions were asked in the question period. When Mr. Young insisted that Mr. Jacques produce his proof the Social Credit M.P. said that certain members of the A.F.U. and of the Board were either Communists or followed the party line. "So what," said Mr. Young, "there are Communists in Canada, does that make Canada Communist - controlled?"

Mr. Jacques then said there were a sufficient number of Communists in the A.F.U. to exert control of policy and cited the strike as the outstanding example. Mr. Ansley supported the statement with reference to Communist control during the strike.

Won't Name Source

Mr. Young insisted on further proof and after consultation with Mr. Low, Mr. Jacques said he would go so far as to say that his information came from a responsible department of government and had been supplied members as a report. He was not able to further divulge the source of such information at this time.

Demand Proof

In view of the fact that the A.F.U. rank and file jealousy guards the non-political stand of the organization, the charge created a definite feeling of resentment among members of the A.F.U. in attendance, and there was a general demand for more definite proof to back such a disturbing statement by public speakers in responsible positions.

The L'Union des Electeurs was the solution offered by Hon. Solon E. Low, leader of the Social Credit movement in Canada. Described as non-political in its organization and action, the L'Union des Electeurs is designed to cut across all political parties to afford the electors of a constituency an agency of complete and continuous control over elected representatives, and to rescue them from the domination of party caucus, Mr. Low said.

"Stupid and Assinine" The present leaders of political organizations in Canada are stupid and assinine, said Mr. Low, exempting himself and Mr. Jacques. The most stupid of assinines are the socialists. "Why," said Mr. Low, "they are just beginning to learn that there is a shortage of purchasing power in the hands of the people who need the goods and are now using our (Social Credit) analysis, though they deny the A plus B theorem."

"Humiliating Position" The present government at Ottawa are learning," said Mr. Low, "I have just received a 225 word telegram from the Minister of External Affairs inviting me to attend sessions of the Security Council in an advisory capacity, and I am going. Mr. Gordon Graydon, ranking member of the Conservative party in the house at the time, and M. J. C. McNeil, leader of the C.C.F., were so stupid and assinine."

TRADE UNIONISTS AT SUMMER SCHOOL

TORONTO (CPA). — Two hundred odd trade unionists from all parts of Canada attended the Summer School Camp at Geneva Park during the latter part of July and early August.

National Director Millard addressed two evening meetings and with U.P.W.A. President Ralph Helstein, took part in a C.B.C.-sponsored broadcast featuring the camp activities.

Study Periods

The daily routine of study consisted of general sessions each morning from 9 until 12 and afternoon sessions during most of the afternoon, the former being conducted, for the most part by Andy Andras of the C.C.L. Research Department, Judah Drob, Labor lecturer and writer from Detroit, and David Lewis, National Secretary of the C.C.F., who gave a course on Trade Union History and Labor Legislation.

Evening sessions usually featured a prominent Labor speaker, and the use of films and film strips, followed by refreshments and a sing-song with Camp Director Howard Conquergood beating it out on the piano.

Australia

(Continued from Page 5)

preparation of this much discussed Bill.

Press Issues "Warnings"

The Australian capitalistic press is already pouring out warnings to the man in the street that "monopoly" control of the banks places him under virtual "dictatorship," deprives him of individual freedom in banking, and heralds red-tape and inefficiency. But labor has great strength in this country and is well led by the trade unions.

Judges Will Decide

Fantastic feature of this vital struggle is that the issue will not finally be decided by parliament, or the general public, but by a handful of judges appointed for life from whose decision there is no appeal. This anomaly in the government of Australia has long been subject to bitter controversy, but when the public has been given repeated opportunities to amend the constitution and place the Federal Government's powers beyond the interpretation of the High Court through an amended statement of its authority, the referendum has been repeatedly negated by indifferent voters, or a vote stamped by high pressure press-campaigns. Now the press again is bringing out charges of "totalitarianism," "gestapo powers," and "interference with rights of private individuals."

themselves to become members of the delegation to San Francisco and so had their mouths effectively closed." (Social Credit was not included in the delegation).

"I would not have put myself in that humiliating position," Mr. Low declared. "He is now being asked to attend as an adviser."

Demand Results

The demand of the Union des Electeurs from Quebec, where, according to Mr. Low, it is quite well organized and gaining in strength is far reduced taxation, both Provincial and Federal. The budgets of the last two years, he maintains, have reflected this demand by an important part of the electorate. If people would get together in such a union of electors and demand results, there need be no fear of them not getting it, he contended.

The speaker did not elaborate on the necessity for a demand by the L'Union des Electeurs in Alberta for a reduction of taxes here, nor did he make known how such a service would be provided.

Farm Land Values In Fine Shape For A Bust In The U.S.

WASHINGTON. — Farm land values are in fine shape for a bust. They are within 5 per cent of hitting the record of the 1920 land boom, which ended in disaster to many farmers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports.

One of the significant disclosures is that half of the purchases in the last three years were made with borrowed money. A decline in farm prices and income, the Department said, would cause farmers to "again have difficulty in meeting mortgage payments and other fixed obligations."

Behind Strikers

(Continued from Page 1)

ing in violation of the injunction. The injunction forbids picketing by 20 named defendants, including W. Longridge and Les Bogie, Local Union Business Agent. It also forbids leaflet distribution.

Citizens Behind Workers

The citizens of Medicine Hat, aroused by the actions of this Company are rallying to the support of the workers, the union points out in its press release. They are volunteering on the picket line and are contributing to the union strike fund.

A large mass meeting held last Friday night under the chairmanship of Alderman Horne and addressed by Ald. E. W. Smith gave strong support to the strikers.

In a review of conditions leading up to the strike the union statement says:

Penalty Clauses

"The large industrialists in Medicine Hat, have banded together in this fight against increased wages. They have hired the services of N. E. Garman, Calgary solicitor, to handle all labor negotiations. Through him, they are refusing to increase wages, except in insignificant amounts. He is presenting the same type of contract to all the unions in these industries, a contract with penalty clauses which has as its purpose the destruction of the unions."

"The result of this organized conspiracy has been the strike at Medalta, with the vicious attacks on the workers, followed by a strike at the Medicine Hat Brick and Tile (65 employees). The latter dispute is now going to arbitration pending which the workers have returned to work."

The workers are fast becoming union-conscious and are at last rising in protest against years of intolerable conditions.

Low Base Rate

"The union and the Medalta company started negotiating on June 6th, negotiations broke down on July 28th, and on August 12th, the workers walked out 100% The Company offer was 7% or a 3 to 5 cent wage increase. The base rate for female employees today is 37 1/2 cents hourly, and for male employees 57 1/2 cents hourly."

Plead Poverty

"The last proposal submitted by the Union was for a 50 cent minimum base rate for female employees and 70 cents minimum base rate for male employees. The Company has pleaded inability to pay wages through poverty, yet the price of their products have increased 5% or three times in the last few years."

"For years the Medalta Poteries has been the lowest paid industry in a low wage area. The company has had every advantage of cheap labor and cheap gas. During these years the owners have milked the Company, to the neglect of modernization; today they are attempting to modernize their plant subsidized by continued low wages. The workers with their meagre pay cheques, find it impossible to exist in the face of the high cost of living. They are demanding not the moon, but only the right to a living."

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